REMARKS

In the specification, the paragraph identified above has been amended to correct the priority date. No new matter has been added.

If the Examiner believes that contact with Applicant's attorney would be advantageous toward the disposition of this case, the Examiner is herein requested to call Applicant's attorney at the phone number noted below.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees associated with this communication or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 50-1446.

Respectfully submitted,

January 9, 2004 Date

Reg. No. 32,970

SPB:jms

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